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Actions Taken by the National Security Council on

"SCOPE AND PACE OF COVERT OPERATIONS"

On 9 October 1951, the Acting Secretary of Defense submitted a number of proposed changes to the recommendations contained in the memorandum for NSC from Acting Executive Secretary, subject as above, dated 27 June 1951. The effect of these changes is indicated below by underscoring and restriking.

* * *

On the basis of its study and consideration of the subject, the Special Committee of the Senior NSC Staff recommends that the National Security Council take the following actions:

- 1. Approves in principle as a national responsibility the immediate expansion of the covert organization established in NSC 10/2, and the intensification of covert operations designed in general order of emphasis to:
 - a. Place the maximum strain on the Soviet structure of power, including the relationships between the USSR, its satellites, and Communist China; and when and where appropriate in the light of U. S. and Soviet capabilities and the risk of war, contribute to the retraction and reduction of Soviet power and influence to limits which no longer constitute a threat to U. S. security.
 - b. Strengthen the orientation toward the United States of the peoples and nations of the free world, and increase their capacity and will to resist Soviet domination.
 - c. Develop underground resistance and facilitate covert and guerrilla operations in strategic areas to the maximum practicable extent consistent with 1-a above, and ensure availability of these forces in the event of war for utilization in accordance with principles established by the National Security Council, including wherever practicable provision of a base upon which the military may expand these forces on a military basis in time of war within active theaters of operations.
- 2. / Direct the Psychological Strategy Board to assure that its strategic concept for a national psychological program includes provision for covert operations designed to achieve the objectives stated in paragraph 1 above.

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- The NSC 3. / Reaffirmsthe responsibility and authority of the Director of Central Intelligence for the conduct of covert operations in accordance with NSC 10/2 and subject to the general policy guidance prescribed therein, and further subject to the approval of the Psychological Strategy Board which shall be responsible for:
 - a. Determining the desirability and feasibility of programs and of individual major projects for covert operations formulated by or proposed to the Director of Central Intelligence.
 - b. Establishing the scope, pace, and timing of covert operations and the allocation of priorities among these operations.
 - c. Coordinating action to ensure Essuring the provision of adequate personnel, funds, and logistical and other support to the Director of Central Intelligence by the Departments of State and Defense for carrying out any approved program of covert operations.
- 4. Requests the Secretary of Defense to provide adequate means whereby the Director of Central Intelligence may be assured of the continuing advice and collaboration of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the formulation of plans for paramilitary operations during the period of the cold war.
- 5. In view of the necessity for immediate decision prior to the coming into operation of the Psychological Strategy Board, the NSC authorizes the conduct of expanded guerrilla activities in China, as outlined in the NSC memorandum and pursuant to the appropriate provisions of NSC 48/5.

 from the DCI and enclosed with the reference memorandum of 27 June 1951 (Ref. A)
 - Ref. A Memo for NSC from Acting Exec. Sec., same subject, dated 27 June 1951.
 - B Memo for NSC from Exec. Sec., same subject, dated 22 Aug 1951.
 - C Memo for NSC from Exec. Sec., same subject, dated 9 Oct 1951.

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